Mine Countermeasures (MCM)

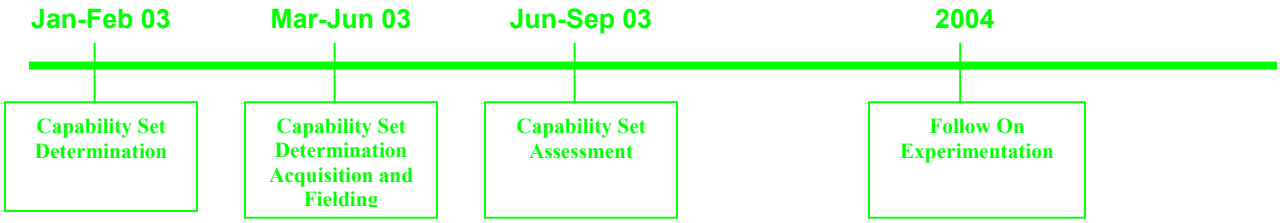
Purpose: To develop a Mine Counter Measures capability set for operational assessment by a deploying Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU).

Background: The Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) and the Office of Naval Research (ONR) study *MCM from Beach Exit Zone to Objectives* recommended near to far-term MCM initiatives to ensure that Marine Air-Ground Task Force will be a viable component of Expeditionary Maneuver Warfare. The Commanding General, Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory (MCWL)/Vice Chief of Naval Research recommended four MCM experimentation evaluations during fiscal years 2003 and 2004. These four evaluations will include: (1) Lightweight full-width mine rollers and mine extractors mounted on Light Armored Vehicles to breach assault lanes and clear mines on combat roads and trails, (2) Hydrema (medium weight) and Keiler (heavy weight) flails to rapidly clear both antipersonnel and antitank mines for laydown/beddown sites and for use in route clearance, (3). Individual protective systems to enhance survivability of dismounted personnel during mine clearance operations, and (4) Hand held detectors experimentation, including the Hand held Standoff Mine Detection System (HSTAMIDS).

Description: The Lab is focusing on the following MCM areas: (1) Development of a Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) MCM Capability Set (2) Follow-on experimentation of candidate technologies (3) Coordination with the Office of Naval Research on near- and far-term S&T initiatives. This effort will produce specifications for a MEU MCM Capability Set, tailored and scalable tactics, techniques, procedures (TTPs), and MCM kits for experimentation by I MEF, II MEF, and Marine Corps Combat Engineer School.

Deliverable Products: Prototype capability sets, TTPs, assessment reports and requirement documentation.

Milestones:



Action Officer: Major Jim Stone 784-1089